IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)
) Art Unit: 1634
Examiner: Stephen T. Kapushoc
) Confirmation No.: 9254
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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION ACCOMPANYING A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

 MAIL STOP RCE
 BALLARD SPAHR LLP

 Commissioner for Patents
 Customer No. 23859

 P. O. Box 1450
 April 6, 2010

 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
 April 6, 2010

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed October 6, 2009, which set forth a three-month period for reply, *i.e.*, January 6, 2010, Applicants now submit this Amendment and Response, a Request for Continued Examination with the corresponding fee, and a Petition for an Extension of Time with the corresponding fee to extend the period of reply by three months, *i.e.*, to April 6, 2010. In light of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the application be reconsidered and placed in condition for allowance.

The Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

The Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.